

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for hot swapping daughtercards in high availability computer systems. In one embodiment, a high availability computer system includes a peripheral bus. Daughtercards may be added to the computer system by inserting them into connectors associated with the peripheral bus. The daughtercards are configured to allow their insertion or removal from the computer system without interruption to system operations. When inserted into a computer system, a daughtercard may be powered up by power control circuitry on the daughtercard. When the daughtercard is powered up, it may then assert a configuration change signal. The computer system may then respond to the assertion of the configuration change signal by establishing software communications with the daughtercard. The configuration change signal may be driven to a storage unit located within a bus interface unit of the computer system. The state of the configuration change signal may be stored within a storage location of the storage unit. The storage location in which the state of a configuration change signal is stored for a given daughtercard is exclusive to that daughtercard. Thus, when a computer system detects the assertion of a configuration change signal, it may immediately make a determination as to which daughtercard asserted the signal.

0960244-100500